GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Home Department – A.P Fire Services – Empanelment of Certified agencies for installation and supply of Fire Fighting Equipment – Permission accorded – Orders - Issued.

HOME (PRISONS & FIRE) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.20 Dated: 19.02.2024
Read the following:-

1. Govt. Memo No.2062952/P&F/A2/2023, Home (Prisons & Fire) Dept., Dated: 08.06.2023.
2. Committee Report and Recommendations, Dt: 22.11.2023.
3. Govt. Memo No.2062952/P&F/A2/2023, Home (Prisons & Fire) Dept., Dated: 08.12.2023.
4. From the Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, A.P., Vijayawada, Letter Rc.No:5862/Genl/2023, Dated: 20.12.2023.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, Government had constituted a Committee to study the issues of Fire Services Department and to study the best practices adopted in the other states and also in Government of India organizations. In the reference 2nd read above, the Committee submitted their recommendations and Best Practices for Implementation to Government.

2. After careful examination of the report submitted by the Committee, Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee and accordingly, the same was communicated to the Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada vide reference 3rd read above.

3. In the reference 4th read above, the Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, has stated that the Committee in Clause 3 of Chapter-8 suggests the Best Practices for implementation of Empanelment of Certified agencies for installation and supply of Fire Fighting Equipment in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

4. The Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, has further stated that:

(a) The Fire Services Department issues Provisional No Objection Certificate to proposed buildings as per Section- 13 of A.P. Fire Services Act, 1999 based on the building drawings and Occupancy No Objection Certificate to constructed buildings after thoroughly verifying fire & life safety measures provided in the premises. The fire fighting equipment plays an important role in mitigating the spread of the fire in the initial stages and such equipment needs to be in good condition, which is possible only if it is procured from genuine suppliers. It was also observed that the fire accidents that occurred in the past are due to installation of poor quality and faulty maintenance of firefighting equipment that led to huge live loss and property damage.

(P.T.O)

(b) At present Fire Services department has no mechanism to streamline the activities of suppliers as anyone can supply the firefighting equipment to the builder. This results in the supply and installation of poor-quality firefighting equipment on many occasions as the applicants generally prefer lesser price rather than quality of equipment, that have failed during firefighting scenarios. Hence, there is a need to protect the lives and safeguard the property by suitably regulating the suppliers/installers of the firefighting equipment in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) To ensure quality of equipment and its installation and to fix accountability on the vendor with the qualified fire safety consultants who can operate within the state thereby improving fire safety standards across the state. This system is already being implemented successfully in states like Maharashtra, Delhi etc., In this regard, a report on Empanelment of Certified agencies for installation and supply of Fire Fighting Equipment submitted by Institute of Public Enterprises (IPE), Hyderabad is recommended and to adopt the same.

5. The Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh has further stated that as per the report of the Institute of Public Enterprises (IPE), Hyderabad, he proposed for empanelment of Fire Safety Consultants by creating a panel of qualified agencies which is expected to lead to the installation of quality firefighting equipment as approved by the Bureau of Indian Standards and will also ensure that building owners / occupants are well trained to start the initial response to the fire. The Fire Safety Consultants will also ensure that the supplied equipment is always in good working condition.

6. The Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, has therefore requested the Government to accord permission for empanelment of Fire Safety Consultants by creating a panel of qualified agencies and to consider and approve the proposed Guidelines for Empanelment of certified agencies for Supply & Installation of Firefighting Equipment.

7. Government after careful consideration of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, for Empanelment of Fire Safety Consultants by creating a panel of qualified agencies and approve the Guidelines to be followed for Empanelment of certified agencies for Supply & Installation of Firefighting Equipment. The guidelines are enclosed as **"ANNEXURE"**.

8. The Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, shall take necessary further action in the matter, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

HARISH KUMAR GUPTA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director General, State Disaster Response and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada. (w.e.)

Copy to:

OSD to Hon'ble M (Home)

P.S. to Principal Secretary, Home Department.

SF/SC

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER